

SENATE BILL 1569
By Haynes

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7; Section 55-8-101; Section 55-9-414 and Section 62-35-103, relative to security officers for colleges and universities accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, is amended by adding the following new section:

49-7-124. (a) The boards of trustees of colleges and universities accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools may establish policies for their colleges or universities pursuant to which a suitable number of persons may be employed and commissioned as security officers by each respective college or university.

(b) Each security officer employed pursuant to this section shall meet the equivalent of the minimum certification requirements of the peace officers standards and training commission.

(c) Each board of trustees may establish other minimum qualifications for employment as security officers; provided, however, the qualifications for a security officer permitted to carry firearms or other arms while on duty shall be no less stringent than the certification requirements of the peace officers standards and training commission.

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(d) When properly commissioned and qualified in accordance with the policies of the board of trustees of the college or university employing the security officers, each security officer shall have all the police powers necessary to enforce all state laws and local ordinances. The authority of the security officers at each respective college or university shall extend to all facilities or property owned, leased or operated by the respective college or university, including any public roads or rights-of-way which are contiguous to or within the perimeter of such facilities or property.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 62-35-103(a), is amended by adding the following new subdivision to the end of the subsection:

() A security officer employed by a college or university who has police powers pursuant to §49-7-124.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-101(2)(A), is amended by adding the following language after the word “city”:

vehicles operated by security officers employed by colleges and universities pursuant to §49-7-124 when on official business,

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-9-414(a)(1), is amended by adding the following language after the phrase “municipal governments of the state,”:

security officers employed by colleges and universities pursuant to § 49-7-124,

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.